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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/796,016

03/10/2004

Francois Le Bourhis

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2658

22852

7590

09/28/2007

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EXAMINER

SOROUGH, ALI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1616

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/28/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/796,016

Applicant(s)

LE BOURHIS ET AL.

Examiner

Ali Soroush

Art Unit

1616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Applicant Claims
2. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
3. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue; and resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

1. Claims 1-28 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sturla et al (US Patent Application 2001/0051135 A1, Published 12/13/2001) in view of Ashton et al (US Patent 6350433 B1, Published 02/26/2002).

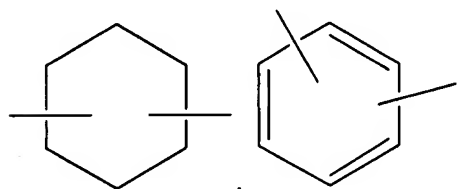
Applicant Claims

Applicant claims a aerosol device comprising a cosmetic composition comprising a polyurethane in a cosmetically acceptable medium comprising water and an organic solvent and a propellant comprising dimethyl ether and at least one C₃- C₅ hydrocarbons. Applicant further claims a method for shaping and/or holding a hairstyle and a hair lacquer using the aforementioned aerosol device.

Art Unit: 1616

Determination of the Scope and Content of the Prior Art (MPEP §2141.01)

Sturla et al. teaches aerosol device comprising a polyurethane and/or polyurea multiblock polymer in cosmetically acceptable medium. (abstract). "The polyurethane and/or polyurea compounds of the polymer can having repeating base unit corresponding to the general formula (I): $-X-B-X-CO-NH-R-NH-CO-$ in which: X represents O and/or NH, B is a divalent ... radical chosen from aromatic alkylene radicals, and C_1 to C_{20} aliphatic radicals, and C_1 to C_{20} cycloaliphatic radicals. In certain embodiments, radical B is a C_1 to C_{30} radicals ..." (See paragraph 0031 – 0036). "The radical R can be chosen from the radicals corresponding to the following formulae:



..." (See paragraph 0037). "In certain embodiments,

radical R is chosen from hexamethylene, 4,4'-biphenylenemethane, 2,4- and/or 2,6-tolylene, 1,5-naphthylene, p-phenylene and methylene-4,4-bis-cyclohexyl radicals, and the divalent radicals derived from isophorone." (See paragraph 0039). In accordance with the invention a polyurethane and/or polyurea comprising a polysiloxane for example "the formula (II): $X-P-X-CO-NH-R-NH-CO-$ in which: P is a polysiloxane segment, X represents O and NH, and C_1 to C_{20} aliphatic radicals, and C_1 to C_{20} cycloaliphatic radicals. In certain embodiments, radical B is a C_1 to C_{30} radicals ..." (See paragraph 0040 and 0041). Sturla et al. teaches that polyurethane can be added to the total weight of the composition in an amount between 0.1 and 20%, preferably between 2 and 8%. (See paragraph 0062). The amount of organic solvent (i.e. ethanol) can be

Art Unit: 1616

added in amount between 7.5 to 70% by weight. (See paragraphs 0063 and 0064). The total amount of propellant added to the composition can be between 15 and 85%, preferably between 25 and 60%, and most preferably between 30 and 50%. (See paragraph 0065). The propellant can comprise fluoro or non-fluoro hydrocarbons, dimethyl ether and mixtures thereof. (See paragraph 0066). The composition can further include cosmetic additives including thickeners, antiperspirants, surfactants, and vitamins. (See paragraph 0067). A preferred example of the device containing the following composition: 4% lactic acid/ethylene glycol P (MIS-EG) dimethylolpropanoic acid (DMPA) –isophorone diisocyanate polyester, aminomethylpropanol, 15% ethanol, 35% dimethyl ether, q.s. 100% demineralized water. (See paragraph 0071). Sturla et al. further teaches a process for shaping or maintaining a hairstyle comprising using the use of this aerosol device. (See paragraph 0011). “Yet another subject the invention relates to the use of this device for the manufacture of a lacquer or an aerosol spray.” (See paragraph 0012).

Ascertainment of the Difference Between Scope the Prior Art and the Claims
(MPEP §2141.012)

Sturla et al. lacks a teaching of a propellant comprising both dimethyl ether and at least one C₃- C₅ hydrocarbons. Ashton et al. cure the deficiency.

Ashton et al. teaches an autophobic hair spray composition comprising film forming resin such as carboxylated polyurethanes, propellant, and autophobic hair spray additive. (See title and column 2, Lines 64-65). “The hairspray resin employed in the composition of the present invention should be capable of forming a film and holding

Art Unit: 1616

the hair of the user in place ..." (See column 2, Lines 15-17). "Compositions of the present invention include water. Typical water levels for an ethanol-based aerosol fixing spray are from 2 to 10%, usually about 2 to 6% by weight." (See column 6, Lines 30-32). The composition can further include an adjuvant such as ceramides. (See column 7, Lines 21-39). Ashton et al. further teaches that propellant is a mixed propellant of dimethyl ether and hydrocarbone selected from isobutane, n-butane, propane, and mixtures. (See column 3, Lines 64-67 and column 4, Lines 1-2). "The amount of propellant will range 3 to 50%, preferably from 5 to 45%, optimally from 25 to 45% by weight total composition. Weight ratio of total hydrocarbon to dialkyl ether will range from 5:1 to 1:10, preferably from 2:1 to 1:5, more preferably from 1:1 to 1:4, optimally about 1:2 by weight." (See column 4, Lines 9-11).

***Finding of Prima Facie Obviousness Rational and Motivation
(MPEP §2142-2143)***

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Sturla et al. with Ashton et al. One would have been motivated to do because Sturla et al. teaches that a mixture of propellants may be used for delivering a polyurethane composition. Further, Ashton et al. teaches a composition that comprises carboxylated polyurethanes for hair fixing. For the foregoing reasons the instant device would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention.

2. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sturla et al (US Patent Application 2001/0051135 A1, Published 12/13/2001) in view of Ashton

Art Unit: 1616

et al (US Patent 6350433 B1, Published 02/26/2002) further in view of Carballada et al. (US Patent 6703008 B2, Published 03/09/2004).

Applicant Claims

Applicant claims a aerosol device comprising a cosmetic composition comprising a polyurethane in a cosmetically acceptable medium comprising water and an organic solvent and a propellant comprising dimethyl ether and at least one C₃- C₅ hydrocarbons. The composition further comprises panthenol. Applicant further claims a method for shaping and/or holding a hairstyle and a hair lacquer using the aforementioned aerosol device.

Determination of the Scope and Content of the Prior Art (MPEP §2141.01)

The teachings of Sturla et al. and Ashton et al. are disclosed above.

Ascertainment of the Difference Between Scope the Prior Art and the Claims

(MPEP §2141.012)

The combined teaches Sturla et al. and Ashton et al. lacks a teaching of a panthenol as additional vitamin. Carballada et al. cure the deficiency.

Carbadalla et al. teaches an aerosol hair spray composition comprising combinations of silicone-grafted copolymers. (See title). The hair spray optionally includes conditioning agents that would modify hair feel including vitamin B preferably panthenol. (See column 12, Lines 57-66).

Finding of Prima Facie Obviousness Rational and Motivation ***(MPEP §2142-2143)***

Art Unit: 1616

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Sturla et al. and Ashton et al. with Carballada et al. One would have been motivated to do because Sturla et al. teaches that a composition that can include a vitamin. One would be motivated to add panthenol because it would provide the hair spray of Sturla et al. with a conditioning agent that would give a better hair feel. For the foregoing reasons the instant device would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ali Soroush whose telephone number is (571) 272-9925. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 8:30am to 5:00pm E.S.T.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Johann Richter can be reached on (571) 272-0646. The fax phone number For the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO

Art Unit: 1616

Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call
800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ali Soroush
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 1616

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharmila Landau", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Sharmila Landau
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600